

Maryland Energy Administration Delivers Results for a *Smart, Green and Growing* Maryland in 2009

The O'Malley-Brown Administration has taken major steps to advance our energy future, lower electricity bills, and promote clean, renewable power. MEA did not receive any General Funds in 2009, relying instead on the proceeds from the sale of greenhouse gas allowances and federal stimulus funds. Below are some of MEA's 2009 accomplishments to create a *Smart, Green and Growing Maryland* for our families and future generations.

MEA Working for Maryland Families:

- **Over 1,600 units in multi-family buildings across Maryland have been retrofitted** with energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, and an additional 1,176 units in 17 buildings have been audited to identify opportunities to save energy through the Multifamily Energy Efficiency and Housing Affordability (MEEHA) program. Energy consumption will be reduced by 15-20 percent.



- **Over 2,500 single family homes benefitted from quick energy check-ups, audits or retrofits in 2009** through a partnership between MEA and the electric utilities. The EmPOWER Maryland Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program connects residents looking to improve the energy efficiency of their homes with certified auditors and contractors. Most Maryland utilities are now offering low cost check-ups and discounts of up to \$1,300 for full energy audits and retrofits. Energy savings typically range from 10-40 percent.
- **Almost 500 additional low or moderate income Maryland families received home energy makeovers at no cost.** Under Maryland's Assisted Home Performance program, almost 500 low and moderate income residents received insulation, duct sealing and other energy efficiency measures up to \$6,500 at no cost to the resident. In partnership with DHCD and Maryland's utilities, this program complements Maryland's weatherization program by using local, MEA certified Home Performance with Energy Star auditors and contractors.

- **Nearly 500 Maryland residents and small business were awarded grants through the Solar Energy Grant Program** to help defray the upfront costs of installing photovoltaics and solar hot water systems and encourage Marylanders to reduce their energy bills and carbon footprint. These grants, totaling over \$2.75 million, helped add over 1,800 MWh of clean, renewable solar power to the grid.



- **350 Marylanders received grants for geothermal energy systems at their homes and businesses**, worth roughly \$1 million and adding about 1,000 MWh to our grid. Maryland's *Windswept* program experienced growth as well, awarding 23 grants for small scale, residential wind systems, totaling \$170,000 and helped to add approximately 270 MWh of wind energy in our State.

MEA Working for Maryland Businesses:

- **Commercial and industrial businesses are taking advantage of MEA's new energy assessment and low-interest loan program.** In 2009, MEA and the Maryland Technology Extension Service provided ten energy assessments to Maryland businesses, worth \$50,000. In November, MEA offered \$5.6 million in low-interest loans under the Commercial & Industrial Energy Assessment Program to help businesses invest in energy efficiency measures that will reduce their costs for years to come.

- **Alternative fuel transportation projects accelerate in 2009.** MEA and our industry partners won a DOE Clean Cities award for \$5.9 million for the purchase of 150 heavy duty hybrid electric trucks, a project estimated to displace 460,000 gallons of diesel fuel annually. In addition, MEA awarded 6 grants, totaling \$100,000, to support alternative fuel infrastructure projects, such as E85 stations and biodiesel storage facilities. These grants leveraged \$1.1 million over the course of the year and will displace approximately 290,000 gallons per year.



- **Solar investments help Maryland businesses stay competitive.** Building on the success of the residential solar program, MEA launched a new program to help Maryland businesses defray the upfront costs of larger solar photovoltaic and solar water heating investments. With \$1.45 million available, the Mid-Size Solar Commercial Grant Program provides up to \$25,000 for systems between PV systems between 20 kW and 100 kW and large solar water heating systems. MEA also announced the launch of ‘Project Sunburst’ with the goal of doubling the amount of solar energy produced in Maryland through a focused effort to add renewable systems arrays to public buildings.

- **MEA jump-starts the first major, utility scale renewable projects in the region** through the Generating Clean Horizons program. These long-term power purchase agreements with four large scale renewable energy projects will provide up to 133 megawatts of wind and solar energy to Marylanders. This equates to powering 30,000 Maryland homes each year with stable pricing and a cleaner environment. These long term agreements with the University Systems of Maryland and Department of General Services help developers secure project financing to make the first utility scale projects a reality.



MEA Working for Maryland Employees

- **607 contractors have been trained** through the Home Energy Retrofit and Weatherization Workforce Training Programs recently launched at 13 community colleges across the State. The program offers a “one-stop” training source for any energy retrofit career path in the state, including contractors working with local weatherization agencies and Maryland’s utility providers.

MEA Working for Maryland Communities

- **38 community and non-profit groups received the first EmPOWER Clean Energy Communities grants and loans in 2009.** MEA competitively awarded twenty grants for investments in energy efficiency and renewable projects across the state. Projects include retrofitting senior centers, museums and ice rinks. In addition, eighteen organizations that exclusively serve low-to-moderate income Marylanders received grants or loans.
- **Using federal stimulus funds, MEA awarded \$9.6 million to 173 local governments to finance energy overhauls and renewable projects.** Using ARRA funds, MEA is providing 13 counties and 160 localities an Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant. The grants will allow local governments to install energy efficiency and renewable energy systems on public facilities, which create green jobs, reduces costs, and improves the environment.
- **Marylanders learned how to save money and energy through MEA’s General Awareness Campaign** which began in the late spring and ran through the fall. Based on the EmPOWER Maryland 15% energy efficiency goals, the campaign provided 15 tips for saving money and energy. Web traffic increased by over 74% from this time last year and our newsletter is now nearing a reach of over 3,000 opt-in subscribers each month.

For more in-depth information on any of MEA’s available programs, please visit www.energy.maryland.gov or call the MEA at 410.260.7655 or toll free at 800.72.ENERGY